

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 09380 101501Z

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 CAB-09

COME-00 EB-11 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SY-10 USSS-00 DRC-01

OPR-02 OIC-04 LS-01 /140 W

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O R 101400Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0668

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

USUN NEW YORK 1687

UNCLAS ROME 9380

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICAO, ETRN

SUBJECT: ICAO AIR SECURITY CONFERENCE: ISRAELI LETTER

MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

REF: ROME 9364

PLS PASS TO: LITTELL/CAB; DRISCOLL/DOT; STEWART/FAA

1. FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH TEXT OF ISRAELI DEL LETTER,
FRENCH TEXT OF WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED EARLIER (REFTEL):

BEGIN TEXT QTE

TEXT OF A LETTER DELIVERED ON THE 10TH OF SEPT 1973

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PAGE 02 ROME 09380 101501Z

TO MR.Y. DIALLO, PRESIDENT OF THE 20TH SESSION (EXTRA-

ORDINARY) OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ICAO BY AMBASSADOR AMIEL E. NAJAR, CHIEF OF THE DELEGATION OF ISRAEL. A LETTER WITH THE SAME CONTENT WAS ADDRESSED TO MR. A. KOTAITE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ICAO

MR. PRESIDENT,
ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MY GOVERNMENT I HAVE THE HONOUR TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION CERTAIN RECENT FACTS OF EXCEPTIONAL GRAVITY AND OF UNDOUBTED RELEVANCE TO THE WORK OF THE 20TH SESSION (EXTRAORDINARY) OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION.

1. - ON THE 5TH SEPTEMBER 1973 ITALIAN STATE SECURITY FORCES SUCCEEDED IN APPREHENDING FIVE ARAB TERRORISTS AND THUS PREVENTING A TRAGEDY.

2. - IN AN APARTMENT OCCUPIED BY THE TERRORISTS, ADJACENT TO THE FIUMICINO-ROME INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TWO GROUND TO AIR MISSILES WERE FOUND. THEY WERE OF THE S.A.7 TYPE COMPLETE WITH LAUNCHING DEVICES AND IN PERFECT WORKING ORDER. THESE WEAPONS WERE TO BE USED FOR SHOOTING DOWN AN AIRCRAFT OF EL AL ISRAEL AIRLINES WHILE LANDING OR TAKING OFF FROM THE AIRPORT.

3. - THESE MISSILES OF A HIGHLY ADVANCED TYPE ARE CLEARLY OF MILITARY CHARACTERISTIC AND ARE INTENDED TO BE USED FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF LOW FLYING AIRCRAFT. THESE WEAPONS CAN SERVE NO OTHER PURPOSE.

4. - IN THE MIDDLE EAST THESE MISSILES ARE IN THE SERVICE ONLY OF THE REGULAR ARMIES OF SYRIA, IRAQ AND EGYPT. THEY WERE DELIVERED TO THEM BY THE U.S.S.R. WHICH IS THE SOLE SUPPLIER OF THESE ARMS TO THE ARAB STATES. IT IS ONLY THROUGH THEM THAT THESE MISSILES COULD HAVE GOT INTO THE HANDS OF THE APPREHENDED ARAB TERRORISTS.

5. - THE EMPLOYMENT OF THESE MISSILES AGAINST AIRCRAFT LANDING AND TAKING OFF, AT AN AIRPORT WHERE PLANES LAND AND TAKE OFF EVERY MINUTE REPRESENTS AN UNPRECEDENTED DANGER FOR CIVIL AVIATION. THE SURROUNDINGS OF INTERNATIONAL
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PAGE 03 ROME 09380 101501Z

AIRPORTS ARE USUALLY BUILT UP AND INHABITED AREAS. THESE WEAPONS, IF THEY HIT AN AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT CAUSING IT TO CRASH INTO A BUILT UP AREA WOULD, IN ADDITION, INFLICT EXTENSIVE DAMAGE ON THE CIVILIAN POPULATION.

6. - THE SUPPLYING, TO ARAB TERRORISTS, OF MISSILES OF MILITARY CHARACTERISTIC, INTENDED FOR USE AGAINST LOW FLYING ENEMY AIRCRAFT IN TIME OF WAR, BY ARAB STATES WHO KNOW FULL

WELL TO WHAT USE THESE MISSILES WOULD BE PUT IN THESE HANDS, CONSTITUTES AN UNQUALIFIED ACT OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE AGAINST CIVIL AVIATION COMMITTED BY THESE STATES. IT CONSTITUTES MOREOVER A SIGNIFICANT ESCALATION IN THE MEANS OF DESTRUCTION AT THE DISPOSAL OF ARAB TERRORISTS WHICH PROVIDES THEM WITH EVEN GREATER CAPACITY OF STRIKING AT AIR TRANSPORT AND CAUSING THE DEATH OF HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS. ARAB TERRORISM HAS ALREADY IN THE PAST MERCILESSLY STRUCK AT PASSENGERS, CREWS AND AIRCRAFTS OF AIRLINES OF MANY OF THE STATES MEMBERS OF ICAO.

7. - THE ARAB STATES WHO FURNISHED THESE MISSILES TO THE ARAB TERRORISTS HAVE MADE THEMSELVES ASSOCIATES AND ACCOMPLICES OF AN UNPRECEDENTED THREAT TO CIVIL AVIATION, THUS FLAGRANTLY VIOLATING BOTH THE CHICAGO AND MONTREAL CONVENTIONS. THESE EVENTS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS HAVE GIVEN A NEW AND URGENT DIMENSION TO THE PERILS MENACING INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THE ITEM WHICH THE ASSEMBLY DECIDED, LAST FRIDAY, TO INCLUDE IN ITS AGENDA, WHICH DEALS PRECISELY WITH ACTS OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH CIVIL AVIATION, COMMITTED BY STATES.

I WOULD THEREFORE REQUEST YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, TO KINDLY ARRANGE FOR A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL THE DELEGATIONS ATTENDING THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE ICAO ASSEMBLY.

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

AMIEL E. NAJAR, CHIEF OF THE DELEGATION OF ISRAEL TO THE 20TH SESSION (EXTRAORDINARY) OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ICAO. UNQTE

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PAGE 04 ROME 09380 101501Z

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